



BOROUGH OF WIDNES.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1908.

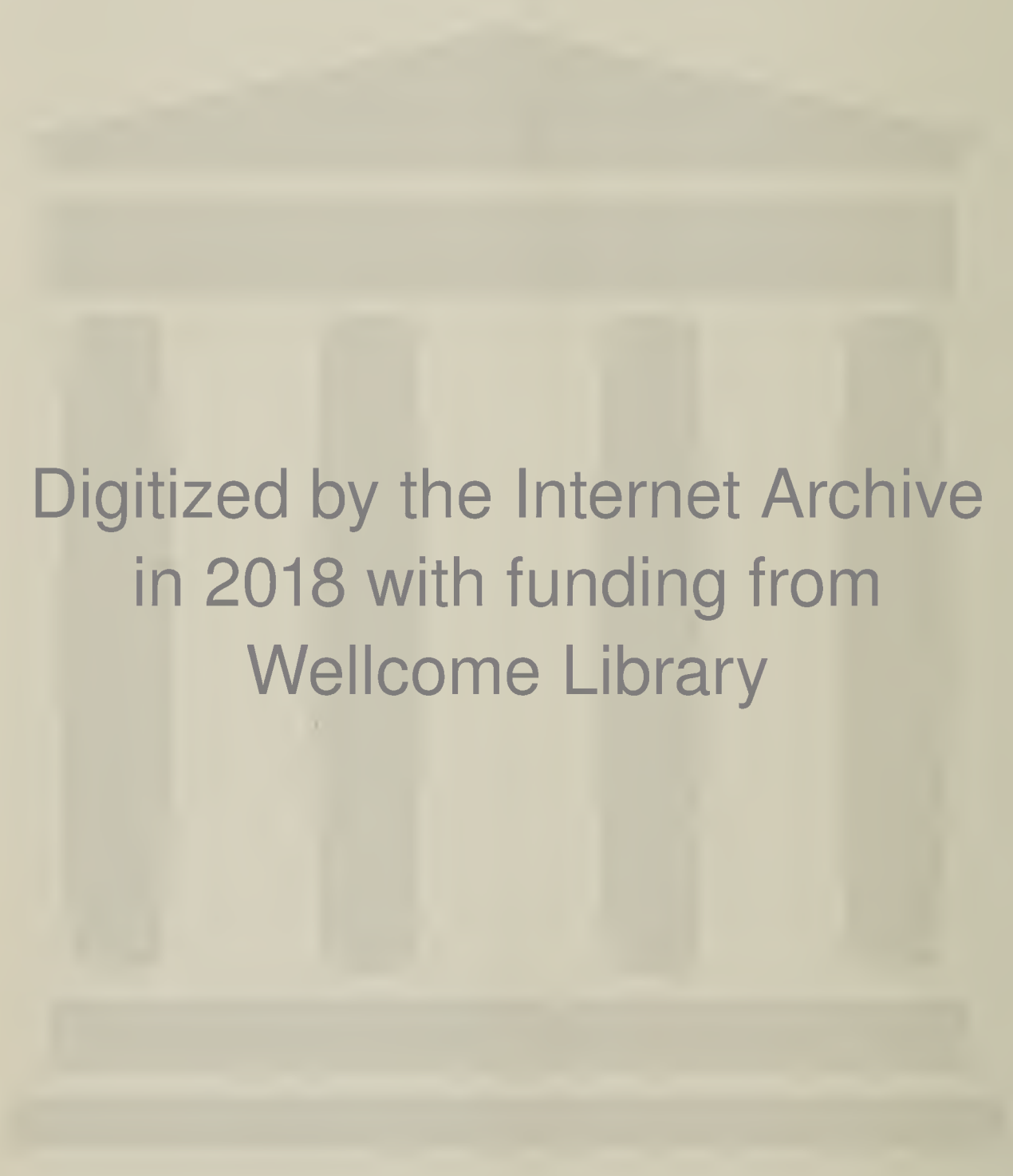
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WIDNES :

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1909.



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TO THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH  
OF WIDNES.

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GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my 4th Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year 1908.

The year has been a notable one owing to the increased powers obtained in the Corporation Bill (1908). These powers deal with the sale of Milk and Ice Cream, Slaughterhouses and also Bower's Brook. The latter powers are very important and I hope that in the near future arrangements may be made to improve the state of the district through which the brook flows.

Another notable addition or auxiliary to the Public Health Work is the scheme for Medical Examination of school children. Inspections have been carried on in the schools of the Borough since June, 1908, and a report on these inspections is appended as requested by the Local Government Board.

I am pleased to again report an increased Birth rate and a slightly decreased death rate. I would however specially call attention to the fact that the Infantile Mortality is lower than last year.

In 1907, a year exceptional for the low mortality among infants, the rate in this Borough was 143 per 1000 births. This year, although the summer was more favourable for diarrrhœal diseases some would have expected a higher rate of mortality, the rate per 1000 births is 137.

I might mention in this report that the Police and Sanitary Committee of the House of Commons, when dealing with the provisions of the Corporation Bill, were very favourably impressed with the provisions made in the Borough for Public Health Work, more particularly with regard to the Hospital accommodation and treatment of Infectious disease.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. S. BREBNER.

## SECTION 1.

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS, 1908.

Estimated Population	...	...	..	32,111
Births : Male, 535 ; Female, 507	...	...	...	1,042
Birth Rate, per 1000 of Population	....			32·4
Deaths : Male, 302 ; Female, 254	...	...	...	556
Death Rate, per 1,000 of Population	....			17·3
Zymotic Death Rate	...	...	....	1·24
Infantile Mortality (per 1,000 births)	...			137
Excess of Births over Deaths	...	...		486
Density : Average No. of Persons per Acre				10·5
Area of Borough, in Acres	...	...	...	3,039

*\*England and Wales, 1908.*

Birth Rate	....	...	...	26·5
Death Rate	....	...	...	14·7
Zymotic Death Rate	...	...		1·29
Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Births				121

\* These figures are subject to revision



## SECTION II.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of the Borough at the last census, 1901, was found to be 28,579. It has been customary to estimate the population in other years from the number of inhabited houses and the average No. of persons per house (5·6) as shown at the last census.

In 1907 I estimated the population to be 32,111, but, in spite of the fact that the number of inhabited houses has again increased (as seen in the table below), I am of opinion that 5·6 persons per house is too high a figure to estimate on and therefore propose not to estimate an increased population this year. My reason for so doing is that I am afraid, were the estimates to go on increasing we should find that at the next census (1911) the population would not come up to the estimate and consequently my figures would be misleading.

## Total Number of Houses in Widnes, July, 1908.

	Number of Houses.	Number of inhabited Houses.	Lock-up Shops.	Number of Empty Houses.	Houses in course of Erection.	District.
	693	644	2	47	0	East
	3828	3563	145	120	36	West
	1761	1643	46	72	1	South
1908	6282	5850	193	239	37	
1907	6231	5752	200	279	20	

No. of Children taken in the Census : —		1907	1908
Between 3 and 14 — E. District.....		892	868
W. District.....		4337	4531
S. District.....		2308	2342
		7537	7741
No. of Children on the Rolls of the Elementary		1907	1908
Schools, July ... ..		6859	6726

## *Births—*

The number of Births registered during the year was 1042, as against 1024 in 1907. Of these there were 535 males and 507 females. This gives a birth rate of 32·4 on the estimated population as against a rate of 31·8 in 1907. The average birth rate for the last 10 years was 33·14.

Table of Births for each Month during 1908 :—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ttl.
Males ...	57	45	59	53	45	48	50	39	40	32	33	34	535
Females	23	47	41	39	39	53	44	52	54	36	35	44	507
	80	92	100	92	84	101	94	91	94	68	68	78	1042

## *Deaths—*

There were 556 deaths during the year, of which 302 were males and 254 females. This gives a death rate of 17·3 per 1000 of the estimated population. Included in these deaths are 62 deaths of persons belonging to Widnes, but temporarily resident in other districts. The majority of these are deaths which occurred in Whiston Workhouse, and some occurred in Liverpool Hospitals.

## *Mortality in Age Groups—*

Deaths under 1 year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	143
„ over 1 year and under 5 years ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
„ „ 5 „ „ 15 „	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
„ „ 15 „ „ 25 „	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
„ „ 25 „ „ 65 „	...	...	...	...	...	...	202
„ over 65 „	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
							556

## *Infantile Mortality—*

There were 143 children who died during the year before reaching the age of twelve months. This gives an Infantile Mortality rate of 137 per 1000 births, as compared with the rate of 121 for England and Wales.

As mentioned previously this is very gratifying, more particularly seeing that the year 1908 was one favourable for the production of Infantile Diarrhœa, whereas in 1907, when the Infantile Mortality was 143, there was very little Diarrhœa.

The Infantile Mortality rate is still too high, and it will only be by educating the girls in our schools that any very great improvement will take place. Taken as a whole, the classes among whom this mortality is so great are not willing to be advised as to feeding, etc., of Infants, whereas the girls in the higher standards might readily be taught with great advantage to themselves and to future generations.



# INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1908.

Deaths from stated causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
<i>All Causes—</i>																	
Certified .....																	143
<i>Common Infectious Diseases—</i>																	
Measles .....													1	1			2
Diphtheria : Croup.....																	...
Whooping Cough .....																	0
<i>Diarrhœal Diseases—</i>																	
Diarrhœa, all forms .....					1	1	2	...	2	3	...	1	2	1	...		13
Enteritis ( <i>not Tuberculous</i> )—						5	8	5	4	5	...	4	1	1	1		34
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh .....																	...
<i>Wasting Diseases—</i>																	
Premature Birth .....	10	1	2	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Congenital Defects.....	7	2	5	2	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Injury at Birth .....	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Atrophy, Debility, Maras- mus.....				2	2	7	4	2	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	18
<i>Tuberculous Diseases—</i>																	
Tuberculous Meningitis ...									1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tabes Mesenterica.....										2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other Tuberculous Diseases								1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Syphilis .....																	...
Meningitis ( <i>not Tuberculous</i> )										1	...		1	...	...	...	2
Convulsions ..	2	2	...		4	2	...	4	1	3	2	1	1	...	...	...	18
Bronchitis .....							1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3
Pneumonia .....						2	3	2	1	5	1	...	...	...	...	1	15
Other Causes .....	2	...	...		2	...	1	...	...	...	...		1	...	...	...	4
	22	5	7	4	38	12	15	19	10	18	12	1	9	4	3	2	143

### *Zymotic Death Rate—*

The No. of deaths due to the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, viz :—Small Pox, Scarlet Fever, Measles, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Fever (Typhus, Typhoid, Continued) and Diarrhœa was 40 which gives a Zymotic death rate of 1·24 per 1000 of the population, compared with a rate of 2·5 in 1907. The decrease is largely due to the small No. of deaths from Measles and Whooping Cough in 1908.

#### *Scarlet Fever—*

No deaths occurred from this disease in spite of the fact that nearly twice as many cases were notified during the year as compared with 1907.

#### *Measles—*

Twelve deaths occurred from this disease of which 2 were in children under 1 year of age and 9 in children between 1 and 5. After the Christmas holidays of 1907 there was a marked decrease in the number of cases of this disease.

#### *Enteric Fever—*

Five deaths occurred from Enteric during the year as compared with one in 1907. This is a case of mortality of 11% as compared with 6% in 1907.

#### *Diphtheria and Membranous Croup—*

Deaths from these diseases numbered two, exactly the same as in 1907.

#### *Diarrhœa—*

There were 20 deaths from Diarrhœa, 13 of which were in children under 1 year of age. There were also 60 deaths due to Enteritis &c. (diarrhœal diseases), and of these 34 were deaths of children under 1 year of age.

#### *Respiratory Diseases—*

There were 121 deaths from Bronchitis, Pneumonia and other Respiratory diseases giving a death rate of 3·7 per 1000 of the population as compared with 4·4 in 1907.

*Phthisis*—

Was responsible for 21 deaths as compared with 29 in 1907.

The death rate from this disease equals '65 per 1000 of the population. There has been no system of notification of Phthisis but from Jan. 1st, 1909, all poor law cases of Phthisis must be notified.

### VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1908 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Population estimated to middle of each Year	Births		Total Deaths Registered in the District.			
		Number	Rate	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
				Number	Rate per 1,000 Births registered	Number	Rate
1898	32057	1084	33'80	200	185	539	16'8
1899	32000	1066	31'30	218	204	622	19'7
1900	32000	999	31'21	207	207	643	20'09
1901	28580	944	33 0	180	191	515	18'0
1902	28580	1004	35'12	136	135	444	15'53
1903	28580	998	34'80	143	143	448	15'6
1904	29569	1011	34'0	173	171	519	17'5
1905	30604	999	32'6	157	157	496	16'2
1906	30604	956	31'2	187	195	574	18'7
1907	32111	1024	31'8	147	143	563	17'5
Averages for years 1898-1907	30468	1008	33'14	174	172	536	17'5
1908	32111	1042	32'4	143	137	556	17'3

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING  
YEAR 1908.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	All Ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards
Measles .....	12	2	9	1	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping-cough .....	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup .....	2	...	1	1	...	...	...
Croup .....	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Fever—Enteric .....	5	..	...	1	2	2	...
Epidemic Influenza .....	14	...	1	...	1	6	6
Diarrhœa .....	20	13	3	...	...	2	2
Enteritis .....	60	34	10	1	1	13	1
Puerperal Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis, (Pulmonary Tuberculosis).....	21	...	...	2	4	15	.
Other tubercular diseases	15	4	5	2	1	3	...
Cancer, malignant disease	15	...	...	...	...	13	2
Bronchitis .....	38	3	4	...	1	22	8
Pneumonia.....	67	15	15	5	3	26	3
Pleurisy .....	4	...	...	...	1	2	1
Other diseases of Res- piratory Organs .....	12	...	3	1	...	6	2
Venereal Diseases.....	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Premature birth.....	13	13	..	...	...	...	...
Diseases and accidents of parturition.....	3	1	..	...	2	...	...
Heart diseases .....	36	...	1	...	2	21	12
Accidents .....	17	...	5	1	3	6	2
Suicides .....	2	...	...	...	...	2	...
All other causes .....	197	58	14	4	2	62	57
All causes .....	556	143	73	19	23	202	96

Mortality Return for year ending December 31st, 1908, for the Urban Sanitary District of Widnes, showing Mortality from all causes at subjoined Ages:—

WARD	At all Ages	Under 1 Year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards
Farnworth .....	78	24	8	3	4	15	24
Halton View .....	76	20	8	2	...	31	15
Simms Cross.. .....	108	29	14	1	2	50	12
Victoria .....	88	24	14	4	4	32	10
Waterloo .....	79	21	16	5	4	25	8
West Bank .....	65	21	7	4	5	17	11
Totals.....	494	139	67	19	19	170	80

The remaining deaths (62) occurred in public institutions outside the borough.

A Table of Deaths shewing the mortality from all causes at subjoined ages during the year 1908 —

MONTH	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	Above 65	Total
January ...	7	16	...	2	23	13	61
February ...	10	7	3	4	20	13	57
March ...	10	2	...	...	26	10	48
April ...	13	4	5	2	19	7	50
May ...	6	6	3	3	17	10	45
June ...	15	5	3	1	19	4	47
July ...	23	7	...	1	9	6	46
August ...	27	9	1	1	16	5	59
September	12	4	1	3	12	3	35
October ...	3	...	...	...	7	7	17
November	10	6	1	1	15	7	40
December	7	7	2	5	19	11	51
Grand Total	143	73	19	23	202	96	556



## SECTION III.

## RECORD OF ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

*Notifications—*

The total number of cases notified during the year was 150, as compared with 100 in 1907.

A Table shewing the whole of the notifications during the year under the respective ages.

DISEASE.	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards
Small Pox .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup...	12	—	5	7	—	—	—
Erysipelas .....	16	—	—	—	1	13	2
Scarlet Fever .....	78	—	19	56	2	1	—
Enteric Fever .....	44	—	—	10	18	16	—
Continued Fever .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus Fever .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total.....	150	—	24	73	21	30	2

Return of Infectious Diseases notified, and shown in the various Wards in which they occurred, for year ending December, 1908.

WARD.	Smallpox.	Enteric Fever.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.	Erysipelas.	Puerperal, Relapsing or Continued Fever.	Cholera.	Typhus Fever.	Total.
Farnworth .....	—	1	16	5	7	—	—	—	29
Halton .....	—	6	10	2	4	—	—	—	22
Simms Cross .....	—	10	15	2	4	—	—	—	31
Victoria .....	—	13	27	2	1	—	—	—	43
Waterloo .....	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	3
West Bank.....	—	13	8	1	—	—	—	—	22
	—	44	78	12	16	—	—	—	150

Return of Notification of Infectious Diseases, year 1908.

DISEASES.	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Grand Total
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ...	1	1	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	4	2	12
Erysipelas .....	1	—	1	3	—	—	2	2	4	1	1	1	16
Scarlet Fever .....	3	4	3	8	5	5	15	12	11	2	7	3	78
Enteric Fever .....	10	2	2	1	—	—	1	8	7	1	10	2	44
Continued Fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total.....	15	7	6	12	8	6	18	22	22	4	22	8	150

The following table shews the distribution of Enteric Fever in the various Wards since 1890.

	Farnw'th	Halton	Simms Cross	Victoria	Waterloo	West Bank	Total
1890	1	28	8	23	33	12	105
1891	3	11	14	18	10	12	68
1892	1	21	23	17	22	19	103
1893	6	38	60	26	22	30	182
1894	3	28	15	19	16	27	108
1895	—	13	8	9	13	9	52
1896	8	18	15	35	81	57	214
1897	5	6	23	8	24	10	76
1898	8	13	15	19	62	18	135
1899	2	24	33	33	29	7	128
1900	8	7	14	4	6	1	40
1901	4	23	20	19	34	11	111
1902	8	4	16	5	8	5	46
1903	8	3	15	7	12	3	48
1904	—	—	7	9	20	5	41
1905	5	18	20	12	15	4	74
1906	6	12	26	14	6	3	67
1907	—	—	5	6	2	2	15
1908	1	6	10	13	1	13	44
	77	273	347	296	416	248	1657

### *Measures taken to prevent spread of Disease—*

When a case of Infectious Disease is notified the house is immediately visited. Should the Isolation not be sufficient and the medical attendant certify that the case is suitable for removal, it is at once removed to the Isolation Hospital. The house is disinfected and the bedding, etc., removed to the Hospital and disinfected by steam. If the case is left at home, instructions are given as to isolation and a post card is left for the medical attendant to fill up and forward to the Medical Officer of Health when infection has disappeared. In addition disinfectants are supplied free at the Town Hall.

### *Scarlet Fever—*

There were 78 notifications of this disease and no deaths attributable to it as compared with 41 notifications and 2 deaths in 1907. At no period of the year has there been any serious outbreak of the disease although in neighbouring towns large numbers of cases have occurred. Whenever it is possible these cases are removed to Hospital and to this part I attribute our comparative immunity to the disease. 68 out of 78 notifications were treated in Hospital.

### *Diphtheria and Membranous Croup—*

Twelve cases were notified as compared with 24 in 1907. Nearly all cases are treated by means of the anti-toxine which is kept in readiness at the Town Hall and Police Station. The success of this treatment depends entirely on the early use of the serum. If injected within 24 hours of the onset of the disease, the mortality rate is extremely low whereas every hour lost means greater danger to the patient. Three out of the twelve cases were admitted to Hospital and one death occurred there.

### *Enteric Fever—*

There were 44 cases of Enteric Fever notified as compared with 15 in 1907. The latter year was a very exceptional one indeed so that the number during 1908 compares fairly well with preceding years with that exception. The average No. per year for the last 10 years is 70. There is no doubt that a warm period in the summer followed by rain favours the production of this disease in the Borough and



until all the insanitary privies are done away with the disease will persist. It is satisfactory to note that we may shortly have an improvement in these matters when powers are obtained under the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. By the new Corporation Bill (1908) we have powers to compel new property to be provided with ashbins instead of ashpits and it is, I believe the intention of the Highway Committee to use these powers which certainly were very much needed.

Thirty-nine cases admitted to Hospital and 3 deaths. 2 deaths occurred outside Hospital

### *Measles—*

The epidemic of measles which caused the closure of schools in the latter part of 1907, rapidly abated after the Christmas holidays. Twelve deaths occurred from the disease. There has been a small outbreak of the disease towards the close of 1908, but the cases have been of an extremely mild type.

### *Whooping Cough—*

Only one death from Whooping Cough occurred during the year. The disease has not been at all prevalent.

### *Diarrhœa—*

There are a large number of deaths from Diarrhœal diseases and this is to be expected after a warm summer and autumn. The same remarks which apply to Enteric Fever apply here also and I have no doubt that when privies are abolished there will be less infection carried by flies and so less diarrhœal disease of children. In this connection I may say that the efforts of the Sanitary Inspector to get privies converted are very successful. But as there are 3,874 privies which ought to be converted, the task is a very large one.

### *Isolation Hospital—*

The Isolation Hospital at Crow Wood has accommodation for 40 patients. The diseases most commonly treated are, Enteric Fever and Scarlet Fever. From the table below it will be seen that the number of patients admitted during the year is 110 as compared with



59 in 1907. The increase in numbers is due to the greater number of Scarlet Fever and Enteric Fever cases.

It will be observed that during the year a total of 115 cases were treated at the Hospital with 4 deaths.

The Smallpox Hospital at Barrow's Green has accommodation for 8 patients, and the foundations are laid for a new ward if it should ever be necessary.

Number of patients treated during 1908.

	Typhoid.	Scarlet,	Diphtheria.	Total.
In Hospital December 31st, 1907 ...	1	4	—	5
Admitted, 1908 ... ..	39	68	3	110
Died ... ..	3	0	1	4
Patients still in Hos., Dec. 31st, 1908	3	4	0	7

## SECTION IV.

## SPECIAL SANITARY AND OTHER MATTERS.

*Accident Hospital—*

Number of Patients during 1908 :—

Number of In Patients admitted ...	...	...	...	110
Number of Out Patients treated ...	...	..	...	215
Number of Operations ...	...	..	...	28
Number of Deaths ...	...	...	...	6

I am pleased to report that the work of the Hospital is carried on very successfully under somewhat difficult conditions.

*Water Supply—*

The water supply of the Borough is a very excellent one, coming as it does from deep borings in the red sandstone at Stocks Well and Netherley. It does not require any treatment before use. The new engine for pumping which was completed in the summer, provides ample water for a town 10 times the size of Widnes, so that the inhabitants should have plenty for all domestic purposes including baths. The possession of this very ample and pure supply of water should tend to help the sanitation of the town very materially.

I am indebted to Mr. Isaac Carr, Gas and Water Engineer, for the following information :—

*Water Analysis—*

The following is an analysis of the Stocks Well water, made by Professor H. Campbell Brown, since the increased rate of pumping was commenced, and shows a reduction in the hardness, and altogether the water is reported to be of excellent quality:—

	Year			Year		
	1908			1907		
Total solid matter in solution	...	...	16·8	...	...	16·6
Oxygen required to oxidise in 15 minutes	...	...	·006	...	...	·000
Oxygen required to oxidise in 3 hours	...	...	·015	...	...	·000
Ammonia	...	...	·000	...	...	·002
Ammonia from organic matter by distillation with alkaline permanganate	...	...	·000	...	...	·002
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	·196	...	...	·196
Combined Chlorine	...	...	2·000	...	...	1·900
Permanent Hardness	...	...	6·86	...	...	7·43
Temporary Hardness	...	...	2·71	...	...	2·87
Total Hardness	...	...	9·57	...	...	10·30

Gas and Water Engineer's Office,  
Widnes, 13th July, 1908.

*Food and Drugs, Act—*

I am indebted to Mr. Superintendent Strickland, of the County Police, for the following Report :—

## WIDNES DIVISION.

Return of Samples taken under Food and Drugs Act in Borough of Widnes for year ending 31st December, 1908.

No.	Nature of Article purchased.	Result of Analysis.	How disposed of when proceedings have been taken.
1	Butter	Genuine	
2	Gin	do	
3	Butter	do	
4	White Pepper	do	
5	Cheese	do	
6	New Milk	do	
7	New Milk	do	
8	New Milk	11% of water	£1/11/5 costs
9	New Milk	Genuine	
10	New Milk	10% of water	£1/11/5 costs
11	Scotch Whiskey	Genuine	
12	Margarine	do	
13	Irish Whiskey	do	
14	New Milk	12% of water	Fined £10 & £2/1/0
15	Irish Whiskey	Genuine	
16	Mustard	do	
17	New Milk	do	
18	Cheese	do	
19	Scotch Whiskey	do	
20	Margarine	do	
21	New Milk	do	
22	New Milk	do	
23	New Milk	do	
24	Irish Whiskey	do	
25	Butter	do	
26	White Pepper	do	
27	New Milk	do	
28	New Milk	do	
29	New Milk	do	
30	New Milk	do	
31	New Milk	Slightly watered	No proceedings taken

No.	Nature of Article purchased.	Result of Analysis.	How disposed of when proceedings have been taken.
32	Butter	Genuine	
33	Butter	do	
34	Irish Whiskey	do	
35	American Cheese	do	
36	Irish Whiskey	29% of water	Fined £1 & 14/6 costs
37	Rum	Genuine	
38	White Pepper	do	
39	Ground Ginger	do	
40	New Milk	do	
41	Irish Whiskey	do	
42	Cheese	do	
43	Skimmed Milk	Not having name on can	Fined £1
44	Butter	Genuine	
45	Margarine	do	
46	New Milk	do	
47	New Milk	do	
48	Irish Whiskey	34% of water	Fined £2 & 14/6 costs
49	New Milk	Genuine	
50	New Milk	do	
51	Butter	do	
52	New Milk	do	
53	New Milk	Deficient in cream	No proceedings taken
54	Irish Whiskey	Slightly too weak	do
55	Scotch Whiskey	do	do
56	Gin	40% of water	Fined £1 & £1/19/9 costs
57	Butter	Genuine	
58	Root Ginger	do	
59	Butter	do	
60	Ground Ginger	do	
61	New Milk	do	
62	New Milk	do	
63	New Milk	do	
64	New Milk	4% of water	£1/11/5 costs
65	New Milk	Genuine	
66	New Milk	do	
67	New Milk	do	
68	New Milk	9% of water	Fined £5 & 12/8 costs
69	Stout	Genuine	
70	Bitter Beer	do	
71	XX Beer	do	



No.	Name of Article purchased.	Result of Analysis.	How disposed of when proceedings have been taken.
72	Irish Whiskey	41% of water	Fined £5 & 14/6 costs
73	Irish Whiskey	Genuine	
74	Butter	do	
75	Coffee	do	
76	Vinegar	Very doubtful	Fined £2 & 14/10 costs
77	Scotch Whiskey	Genuine	
78	New Milk	do	
79	New Milk	do	
80	Cheese	do	
81	New Milk	do	
82	New Milk	do	
83	New Milk	do	
84	Cheese	do	
85	Scotch Whiskey	31% of water	
86	Irish Whiskey	Genuine	
87	New Milk	do	
88	New Milk	do	
89	Butter	do	
90	New Milk	do	
91	New Milk	do	
92	Butter	do	
93	New Milk	do	
94	Lard	do	
95	Coffee	do	
96	Irish Whiskey	do	
97	Irish Whiskey	do	

County Police Office,

R. STRICKLAND,

Widnes, 5th February, 1909.

Superintendent.

*Cowsheds, Milkshops and Dairies—*

These have been regularly inspected with a view to alterations (where necessary) to conform to the new regulations. Many of the owners of Cowsheds have adopted the suggestions given to them and consequently the condition of these premises is more satisfactory. The owners of milk shops in the town are also conforming to the new bye-laws.

By the new Corporation Act (1908), the Borough has obtained powers with regard to the milk supply which are very important and far reaching. These powers which affect all people who supply milk for sale in Widnes, come into force on March 1st, 1909, and when carried out fully will enable the Health Department to be satisfied as to the purity and cleanliness of all milk sold.

### *Slaughterhouses—*

There are nine slaughterhouses registered in the Borough, but there is not a great deal of slaughtering done. There has been no occasion for any prosecution for exposing unsound meat. Two carcasses were examined at request of owners and condemned.

Extra powers have also been obtained in the new Bill regarding slaughterhouses but it is not proposed to frame new bye-laws at present.

### *Common Lodging Houses—*

There are four of these on the register. They have been periodically inspected.

### *Canal Boats—*

These are regularly inspected by the Inspector of Nuisances, who carries out this and other work entrusted to him in a satisfactory manner.

### *Refuse Removal—*

This work is carried on by the Council and is supervised by the Health and Highway Committees. All new houses are built on the water carriage system and wherever possible ashbins are being substituted for ashpits. Most of the Borough is thoroughly drained and sewered, the sewage passing direct into the estuary of the Mersey. There are still many streets however which require to be paved and sewered, particularly if any scheme for conversion of privies is thought of. I again may mention the treatment of a large number of side streets with tar preparations. One is certainly struck with the cleaner appearance of streets so treated compared with those not treated.

### *Insanitary Property—*

No action under the Housing of the Working Classes Act has been taken during 1908.

### *Nuisances—*

There were 844 nuisances requiring abatement during the year. It was not found necessary to take proceedings in any case.

### *Factory and Workshops' Act—*

This Act has been in force since 1902, and in compliance with Section 132, I have to report upon the administration of the same, and also send a copy of the report to the Secretary of State.

A register is kept of all the workshops in the Borough, and from the tabular statement it will be seen that there are 99 registered workshops in the Borough, including 23 bakehouses and 6 laundries.

A new table of home workers has lately been added to this report. There are not many such home workers in this Borough.

### *Annual Report under the Factory and Workshop Act (1901)—*

#### I — INSPECTION.

Including Inspection made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices	Prosecutions.
Factories .....	67	11	Nil.
Workshops .....	250	24	Nil.
Workplaces . . . . .	—	—	—
Total.....	317	35	—

## 2—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.	
	Found.	Remedied.
Want of cleanliness.....	21	21
Other nuisances .....	3	3
Sanitary accommodation {	insufficient .....	3
	unsuitable or defective	4
	not separate for sexes...	2
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bake-houses (ss. 97 to 100) . . . . .	2	2
Total.....	35	35

## 3—HOME WORK.

Nature of Work.	Lists received from Employers		Numbers of Addresses of Outworkers received from other Councils.	Number of Inspections of Outworkers' premises
	Once in the year.			
	Lists.	Outworkers.		
Wearing Apparel— Making, &c. ....	5	8	1	5
Total.. ..	5	8	1	5

## 4—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the Year.	Number.
General .....	5
Plumbers .....	5
Brass Founder ..	1
Joiners.....	4
Weighing Machine Makers.....	3
Blacksmiths .....	4
Wheelwright .....	3
Ice Cream .....	1
Chemical Apparatus .....	1
Tin Smith .....	1
Cycle Makers .....	3
Laundry .....	7
Cabinet Makers ..	2
Cooperages.....	2
Tool Makers .....	4
Shoe Makers .....	9
Boat Builders .....	2
Saddlers .....	2
Tailoring .....	6
Dressmaking .....	22
Millinery .....	7
Bakehouses .....	29
Total number of workshops on Register .....	123



## 5.— OTHERS MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
<div> <div> Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remedi- able under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5) </div> <div> Notified by H.M. Inspector           Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector... </div> </div>	<div>10</div> <div>10</div>



## BOROUGH OF WIDNES.

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# The Chairman and Members

## OF THE

# Education Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Report on the Medical Inspection of School Children during 1908, as required by the Education (Administrative Provisions) Act, 1907.

These inspections were intended to begin early in 1908, but were unavoidably delayed until June. After careful consideration by the Education and Health Committees, it was decided to appoint two general practitioners in the Borough to carry out the active details of inspection, while the Medical Officer of Health was appointed to supervise the work, and at the end of the year to tabulate the results obtained and submit a report.

Dr. Edwards undertook the inspections at West Bank Council, Widnes C. E., St. Patrick's and St. Marie's Schools, while Dr. Lindsay was allotted Simm's Cross Council, Warrington Road Council, Farnworth C. E., and St. Bede's Schools. The inspectors each worked one afternoon per week. Owing to the short time at the disposal of the Medical Inspectors, the new work and its rather laborious nature, there were not so many inspections completed as was estimated. The inspections began with children of 5 years of age (*i.e.*, those beginning school life regularly), and the inspectors were able to examine all these children with the exception of those at St. Bede's School.

There were 636 children examined in all, of whom 341 were examined by Dr. Lindsay and 295 by Dr. Edwards.

This rate of working is about 6 per hour, but after a time, I expect that more will be able to be examined, as at the beginning the work cannot go so smoothly as it will later on. The school nurse is present at all examinations, and is of course a great assistance, both in taking heights and weights, and in looking after girls who are being examined.

Notices have been taken by the attendance officers to the parents of those children to be examined inviting them to be present, and a great many have availed themselves of the opportunity. It is very desirable that as many parents should attend as possibly can, for not only do they give assistance with younger children, but they can be informed as to the reasons for these inspections, and particularly, can be warned of any defects found, and advised as to the course to be adopted to remedy them.

I might mention that at present a new notice is being sent to parents, informing them that they "*must attend if at all possible.*" This is particularly necessary when girls aged 13 or 14 are to be examined.

As the children examined in 1908 were all aged 5 years, it was not found necessary to test their vision. Now that children over that age are being examined, the vision test, although a comparatively rough one, will take up a good deal of time.

In addition to these inspections the school nurse attends at the various schools, sees children suffering from minor injuries, sore heads etc., and either treats them or recommends suitable treatment.

There is, I believe, one important lesson to be learnt from these inspections, even in the few already carried out. The tabulated records show a great number of defects in these young children. If nothing is done for them the probability is that the defect is gradually getting worse. The Medical Inspector on finding defects informs the parents if present, or sends a printed form advising that a medical man be seen.

There is at present no means by which it is possible to follow up such a case and see if the recommendations have been carried out. It is at once admitted that no one has the power to compel people to

obtain treatment except in the very worst cases of neglect. But it would be perfectly possible in many cases to persuade a parent to do so by pointing out the danger of delay, etc. This could be done very easily by following up the defective children both in the schools and especially in the homes. There is no doubt that such a visitation would tend to better health in more ways than one, as the visitor could see the conditions of the homes and if necessary report to the Health Department on any insanitary conditions.

It is intended to examine children four times during their school life, viz: at the ages of 5, 7, 10 and 13, so that the children examined in 1908 will be again examined in 1910, 1913 and 1916.

The examinations reveal several interesting facts. 336 boys were examined and their average height was 3-ft. 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ -in, while their average weight was 40-lbs.

The standard height for boys of this age is 3-ft. 5-in, standard weight 40-lbs, so that the boys examined while not quite up to the standard in height exactly equal it in weight.

300 girls were examined and their average height was 3-ft. 4-in, average weight 39 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. The standard height of girls this age is 3-ft. 4-in., and the standard weight 39 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lbs, so that the girls exactly equal the standard in both height and weight.

It is interesting also to notice the varying heights in the different schools, but too much importance must not be attached to the following figures, as of course in some schools only a few children were examined as compared with others.



	Boys.		Girls.	
	Height.	Weight.	Height.	Weight.
Standard Hgt. and Wgt....	3 ft. 5-in	40-lbs.	3-ft. 4-in.	39½-lbs.
West Bank Council.....	3-ft. 4¼ in.	38½-lbs.	3-ft. 4¼-in.	38¾-lbs.
St. Patrick's R.C. ....	3-ft. 4¾-in.	41¼-lbs.	3-ft. 4-in.	39½-lbs.
Widnes C.E. ....	3-ft. 3¾-in.	40-lbs.	3-ft. 3¾-in.	39½-lbs.
St. Marie's R.C. ....	3-ft. 3½-in.	39½-lbs	3-ft. 3½ in.	39½-lbs.
Simm's Cross Council.....	3-ft. 4¼-in.	40¼-lbs.	3-ft. 4¾-in.	39-lbs.
Warrington Road Council	3-ft. 4-in.	41-lbs.	3-ft. 4-in.	40-lbs.
Farnworth C.E. . ....	3-ft. 4½-in.	41-lbs.	3-ft. 3¼-in.	40¾-lbs

From the foregoing remarks it will be seen that the average weight in both boys and girls is equal to the standard weight. This gives us a very fair idea of the nutrition of the children, and we can thus form an opinion as to whether there is any need for providing meals.

Taken all round I may say that there are really no children who could be said to be insufficiently fed. From my own observations, the report of teachers, and from the result of these inspections the children all seem to have had food in sufficient amount.

There are, it is true, 60 boys and 36 girls out of the 636 examined who are reported to be of poor nutrition, but I think this arises, not from insufficient feeding but from feeding with the wrong food.

Another important matter disclosed by the examinations is the number of children with dirty and verminous heads. 48 children had dirty or verminous heads, 24 were dirty in body and clothing. These children of course should not be allowed in school until they are free from the danger of contaminating others. The danger is rendered worse by the small and unsuitable accommodation in some schools for out-door clothes. Hats and caps are put upon one another promiscuously and vermin soon transfer themselves from one to another. The only way to deal with these children is to see that the proper treatment is applied to the head and that the clothing is thoroughly disinfected.

Under the Cleansing of Persons Act (1897) Local Authorities may grant the use of any apparatus they possess for disinfecting purposes free of charge, so there should not be much difficulty in dealing with these cases when found.

One is struck in going through the tables by the number of children with decaying teeth. I know that in some schools the teachers have for some time advocated the use of tooth brushes and have spoken on the care of the teeth. This might be made more general and all children instructed in the proper care of the mouth.

The rest of the details will readily be gained from the tabulated statement at the end of this report. I have not endeavoured to compare one school with another partly because of the different status of the children in different schools and partly because the Medical Inspectors apparently have had a different standard in working and their results do not allow of comparison.

I think that although we have not been able to deal with as many inspections as expected, yet what have been accomplished have been well and thoroughly done and have given us a basis upon which to work in the future. Those children who were omitted (viz St. Bede's) I hope to have completed this year along with the other work.

## GENERAL HYGIENIC CONDITIONS OF THE SCHOOLS.

The eight schools in the borough taken as a whole have good sanitary arrangements, all being now fitted with the water carriage system of drainage. Most of the closets are fitted with an automatic flusher and these act in a very satisfactory manner. It would be a good thing if all were brought to the same level, because unless there is an automatic flush for cleansing purposes, water closets such as are supplied to schools are apt to get foul. I should also like to see the old ashpits which now exist gradually replaced by one or more ashbins. In Simm's Cross and other Schools there is abundant supply of water for washing purposes but no supply for drinking. This is a matter which could easily be remedied.

The lighting of the various rooms is another important matter, as bad lighting is bound to effect the eyes of children working at books. In many schools obscure glass is used even in upper rooms, and this prevents a good deal of light from penetrating. Many class rooms also have the light entering from the right side of the children instead of from the left, but in most of these rooms it would be difficult to re-arrange matters on account of the position of fireplaces, doors, etc.

Galleries are still to be found in Infants schools and these ought to be done away with as they are dangerous. Small chairs and low desks or tables should be substituted.

In conclusion I beg to remind the committee that two copies of this report must be forwarded to the Board of Education along with any observations the committee may desire to make.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. S. BREBNER.

No. of Schools in Borough	...	...	...	...	...	8
No. of Children between 3 & 14	...	...	...	...	...	7741
No. of Children on Rolls of Elementary Schools	...	...	...	...	...	6726
No. of Children Medically Inspected (1908)	...	...	...	...	...	636
No. of Parents present at Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	369

### RESULT OF INSPECTIONS.

	Boys.	Girls.
Poor and defective clothing and footgear	32	8
Dirty and Verminous heads	17	31
Dirty bodies	29	16
Caries of teeth	142	105
Enlargement of Tonsils	131	119
Adenoids	68	48
Enlarged glands	73	52
External Eye diseases	15	10
Squints	7	9
Ear diseases	13	7
Deafness	16	8
Defects of speech	12	9
Diseases of Heart and Circulation	19	10
„ Lungs	30	20
„ Nervous system	10	4
Tuberculosis	33	26
Rickets	45	26
Deformities, etc.	13	7
Infectious and Contagious diseases	11	7
Other disease or defects	36	24

1 case of scarlet fever and 2 of chicken pox were found in school during examination.







BOROUGH OF WIDNES.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES,

FOR THE YEAR 1908.

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WIDNES :

PRINTED BY W. WILLIAMS, 12 & 14 HUTCHINSON STREET.

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1909.



# Borough of Widnes.

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REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
DECEMBER 31ST, 1908.

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TOWN HALL, WIDNES.

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee  
Widnes Town Council.*

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MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Eighteenth Annual Report upon the work done in connection with my department during the year 1908, and in doing so wish at the outset to thank you all for the kind and patient consideration you have extended to me in carrying out these duties. The following pages indicate as briefly as circumstances will permit the work done.

TABLE I.

Number of Preliminary Notices Served	...	...	...	376
„ Seven Days' Notices (3 and 14 days' notices not included)	...	...	...	90
„ Repeat Notices drawing attention to nuisances				92
„ Summonses taken out for non-compliance	...			—
Notices not complied with	...	...	...	—
Notices under Section 41, P. H. Act	...	...	...	—
Re-inspections made	...	...	...	752
Total No. of Nuisances	...	...	...	844

TABLE II.

*Summary of Nuisances Registered and abated.*

Yard pavement, relaying or repairing	...	...	...	91
Properly constructed channel to be formed in yard pavement				6
Yards to be properly drained	...	...	...	57
Drains re-laid	...	...	...	1
Choked Drains	...	...	...	122
Defective Gullies	...	...	...	22
Disconnect S. W. P. from drain	...	...	...	1
S. W. P. to discharge over gulley	...	...	...	3
Defective Slopstones	...	...	...	5
Do. do. waste pipes	...	...	...	10
Defective Wash-house Floor	...	...	...	1
Cellar Flooded	...	...	...	1
Filth in Cellar	...	...	...	1
Foul Cesspool filled up	...	...	...	1
Foul Privies converted into W.C.'s	...	...	...	14
Defective Privy Walls	...	...	...	96
Re-lay Closet Floor	...	...	...	5
Defective Closet Riser	...	...	...	6
Provide Closet Seat	...	...	...	3
Defective Closet Roofs	...	...	...	3
Choked and Defective W.W.C.'s	...	...	...	45
Provide New Tippers	...	...	...	6
Defective W. C. Pedestal	...	...	...	2
Moveable Receptacles in place of Ashpit	...	...	...	5
Defective House Roofs	...	...	...	14
Defective Plaster on House Walls	...	...	...	5
Damp Wall	...	...	...	1
Choked and Defective Eave Gutters and Down Spouts	...	...	...	25
Window Cords providing	...	...	...	3
Foul Wooden Skirting Board	...	...	...	1
Defective House Floors	...	...	...	4
Houses cleansed by Limewashing	...	...	...	16
Overcrowding	...	...	...	5
Dirty Yards	...	...	...	8
Accumulation of Chaff	...	...	...	8

Fowl kept so as to be a Nuisance	...	...	...	...	2
Pigeons do. do.	...	...	...	...	4
Pigs do. do.	..	...	...	...	1
Accumulation of Manure	...	...	...	...	1
Intimations to Borough Surveyor <i>re</i> Choked W.W.C.'s	...				146
Notices <i>re</i> Dirty Yards, etc.	...	...	...	...	73
Notices <i>re</i> Wet Privies...	...	...	...	...	20
Notices <i>re</i> Houses Let in Lodgings	...	...	...	...	4
Do. Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	1
Notice under Sec. 5, Infectious Diseases (P) Act, 1890	...				5
Reports to Town Clerk	...	...	...	...	6

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DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885,  
AND REGULATIONS MADE BY THE LOCAL  
AUTHORITY, 1907.

*Milkshops—*

The number of Milkshops in the Borough now number 48 under the New Regulations, and 8 during the year were found contravening the same, their attention was drawn to the fact and they promised not to let it occur again.

*Cow Keepers—*

The number of Cowkeepers is 15, three others having given up keeping milking cows, rather than go to the expense of altering the cowsheds to comply with the new regulations.

Nine cowsheds have been altered to comply with the new regulations and 6 remain to be done.

There are 4 Cow Keepers resident outside the Borough, but who purvey milk in the Borough.

It is my intention as soon as all the cowsheds are put in order, to carry out Sections Nos. 31 and 32 of the regulations which are :—

- 31 He shall not cause or suffer any cow belonging to him or under his care or control to be milked for the purposes of obtaining milk for sale



(a) Unless at the time of milking the udder and teats of such cow are thoroughly clean ; and

(b) Unless the hands and clothing of the person milking such cow also are thoroughly clean and free from all infection and contamination.

32 He shall cause all cows belonging to him or under his care to be kept in a reasonably clean and wholesome condition so as to prevent the infection or contamination of milk as far as may be possible.

I am pleased to report that applications for copies of our regulations *re* Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops are being frequently asked for, and favourably commented upon.

Under the new regulations there has only been one application for registration, the rigid enforcement of the regulations is stopping persons applying for registration, who are unable to conform to same, and I hope the time is not far distant when milk and other dairy produce will be the only goods sold by the Purveyor of Milk.

*No. of Milkshops—*

1 Mooney	20 Warrington Road
2 Reading	61 Lugsdale Road
3 Kehœ	50 Ann Street
4 Cannon	26 Ann Street
5 Merriman	5 Ann Street
6 Dennett	1 Major Cross Street
7 Ingram	25 Alforde Street
8 Short	2 Eleanor Street
9 Lord	1 Rose Street
10 Durbin	7 Witt Road
11 Speakman	2 Alexandra Street
12 Balmer	36 Waterloo Road
13 Duffey	53 Waterloo Road
14 White	8 Marsh Street
15 Connor	16 Wellington Street
16 Sparkes	29 Church Street
17 Brown	18 Wright Street

18 Blong	52 Dock Street
19 Bowyer	5 Irwell Street
20 Bracegirdle	27 Bank Street
21 Woodward	102 Hurst Street
22 H. Johnson	119 Mersey Road
23 Riley	68 Mersey Road
24 Kates, Mary	12 & 14 Viaduct Street
25 Hewson, Wm	37 Mersey Road
26 Davies	16 Vine Street
27 Butterworth	2 Carlton Street
28 Teasdale	110 Mersey Road
29 Banks, Hy.	4 Gerrard Street
30 Cooney	56 Midwood Street
31 Hurst, J.	75 Widnes Road
32 Drummond	184 Widnes Road
33 Pennington	89 Lugsdale Road
34 Howells	130 Widnes Road
35 Webb	56 Gossage Street
36 Knowles	Albert Road
37 Bennett	65 Albert Road
38 Burkhill	27 Park Road
39 Dean	50 Greenway Road
40 Appleton	2 Sadler Street
41 Allen	153 Albert Road
42 Jenkins	48 William Street
43 Hendy	60 Halton View
44 Runcorn Co-op	Albert Road
45 Wiles, Thomas	Salisbury Street
46 Swain, Wm.	Albert Road
47 Balmer Jane	36 Waterloo Road
48 Dolan Ellen	3 Walmsley Street

*Cowkeepers who Sell Milk—*

C. Brassington	Moorfield Road
W. Watkin	Upton
J. Longton	Norland's Lane
J. Hulme	Peelhouse Lane
Wm. Kelly	Highfield Road

Wm. Taylor	Derby Road
Wm. Twigg	Horn's Farm
J. Platt	Rose Farm
J. Wilkinson	Greenoak's Farm
J. Higgins	Chorley Farm
J. Valentine	Warrington Road
Mrs. Mulroy	Upton
Wm. Smith	Albert Road
Robert Potter	Cronton Lane
Wm. Norris	West Street
Peter Hewitt	Birchfield Road

*Cowkeepers from without the Borough who Sell Milk—*

J. Bardsley	Sankey
Mrs. Wright	Cuerdley
J. Henry	Hale
Mrs. Crosby	Sankey

*Cowkeepers given up keeping Cows for Sale of Milk—*

H. Nevitt	Barrows Green
Mrs. Swaine	Albert Road
J. Pilkington	Cronton
Miles Verity	Upton

*Cowkeepers Only—*

Mrs. Shuttleworth	Wilmere Lane
John Ingham	Birchfield Road
John Kelsall	Lowerhouse Lane
Mrs. Baker	Upton
Peter Hodgkinson	Milton Road

*Slaughter-houses—*

The number of Slaughter-houses on the register is now 10, one] was re-opened during the year which had been temporarily closed.

The following is a list of persons to whom Licenses have been issued :—

Rd. Bailey	Cross Street
J. Shuttleworth	26 Farnworth Street
H. H. Fletcher	New Street
F. Pfister	63 Widnes Road
E. A. Bell	15 Ann Street
Geo. Coupe	Croft Street
A. Seed	Croft Street
A. W. Wright	John Street
Bower, Mary	69 Mersey Road
H. Johnson	119 Mersey Road

No contravention of the Bye-laws has been met with.

### *Common Lodging-houses—*

The number of registered houses is four, three of these taking in males only.

They are situated in Waterloo and Victoria Wards, the following persons being the registered keepers :—

McQuirk, 1 & 3 Victoria Street, Males only ..	.....reg. for	57
Wm. Hobbley, 53 Ann Street, Males only.....	do.	44
P. Manning, 4 Marsh Street, Males only .....	do.	52
P. Manning, 2 Marsh Street, Male and Female ...	do.	23

The Sanitary arrangements at each place are on the Water Carriage System ; at No. 2 Marsh Street, separate Sanitary accommodation is provided for each Sex.

The keepers have had the following printed on cards, which are hung in each room :—

### BOROUGH OF WIDNES.

### PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF CONSUMPTION.

It is hereby requested that persons using these bedrooms will, before going upstairs, take off their boots.

Also, that no smoking will be allowed in the said bedrooms.

In view of the danger of the spread of consumption from the habit of spitting, it is earnestly requested that all persons refrain from spitting on the floors of the bedrooms, staircases and lavatories.

I am pleased to report there has been a marked improvement in the cleanliness of the bedding and the rooms.

No infectious disease has been notified from any of the houses. Disinfectants are supplied free for the washing of floors and bedding.

### *Houses Let-in-Lodgings—*

These are very frequently inspected, the houses being found very clean and no irregularities met with.

There are now on the register 24 houses. These principally consist of the Polish nationality. A regular inspection of these houses is necessary to prevent overcrowding, otherwise the majority of them are kept satisfactorily clean.

### *Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875-1879—*

These duties are carried out by the County Authorities.

### *Alkali Waste Deposit—Culverts—*

The Culvert referred to in my Annual Report for 1907, was cleaned out in the early part of the year.

No further trouble has arisen with respect to the other Culverts.

### *Smoke Nuisance—*

No complaints have been received and no action has been taken.

### *Factory and Workshops Acts, 1901, and Public Health Acts (A) Act, 1890—*

There are 56 Factories and 123 Workshops in the Borough, these have been inspected.



Eleven contraventions in the Factories and 24 in the Workshops were met with and have been abated, entailing 317 visits and 35 notices.

Messrs. W. Gossage & Sons and Mr. W. Williams now employ females, and have made every provision in conformity with the Act.

Two of the Factories reported last year as having sanitary conveniences on the privy system, have now adopted water carriage. I hope the time is not far distant when they will all be on the water carriage system.

The following are new works established during the year:—  
The Steelite Works and The Alumina Works.

The following circular was sent to each Works Manager.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,

Town Hall, Widnes,

April 4th, 1908.

To the Manager of

.....

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

I beg to take the liberty to remind you of the requirements of above, *re* the necessity and importance of having the Workmens' Sanitary Conveniences kept thoroughly clean and frequently limewashed, especially during the summer months.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours truly,

W. LOWE.

Sanitary Inspector.

*Copy of this Circular sent out 6/4/08.*

Below is a list of the Works classed as Factories, shewing those that are fitted up on the water carriage system and otherwise, under the Sanitary Accommodation Order of 4th February, 1903.

Farnworth Brick & Tile Co. ...	...	...	Water Carriage, for each Sex
Farnworth Pith & Size Works	...	...	Privy
Sullivan Works ...	...	...	Water Carriage
Pilkington Works ...	...	...	do.
Messrs. Dennis' Cornubia Works	..	...	do.
Widnes Alkali Works	..	...	do.
Corporation Gas Works	...	...	do.
Muspratt Works ...	...	...	do.
Widnes Foundry Works	...	...	do.
Messrs. Smith's Foundry	...	...	do.
Messrs. Williams' Foundry	...	...	do.
Messrs. J. W. Wareing & Co.	...	...	Privy
Messrs. Orr's Zinc White & Lugsdale Chemical Co.			Water Carriage
Messrs. Brett Davey & Co. ...	..	...	do.
Gaskell Deacon Works	...	...	do.
Hutchinson Works ...	...	...	do.
Wm. Gossage & Sons	...	...	do.
Messrs. Aitken ...	...	...	do.
Peter Ireland & Sons	...	...	do.
Messrs. T. Bolton's & Sons, Ltd.	...	...	do.
Messrs. Richard White & Sons	...	...	Privy
Messrs. James White & Co. ...	...	...	do.
Messrs. Steelite Co. ...	...	...	Water Carriage
Messrs. T. Davies, Ltd.	...	...	do.
Messrs. McKechnie Bros.	...	...	do.
Atlas Works ...	...	...	do.
Golding Davies Works	...	...	do.
Mathieson's Works ...	...	...	do.
Craig's, Ltd. ...	...	...	Privy
Messrs. Norman's Pottery	...	...	do.
Messrs. Liverpool Silver & Copper Co.		...	Water Carriage
Dean & Co. ...	...	...	Privy
Fleetwood Chemical Co.	...	...	Water Carriage
Greenway Bros. ...	...	...	do.
Mort Liddell's Works	...	...	do.

Vickers & Sons	...	...	..	..	Water Carriage
Ditton Oil Mills	...	...	...	...	Privy
Lancashire Metal Works	...	...	...	...	Water Carriage
Geo. Hues & Co., Lugsdale	..	...	...	...	Privy
Fredk. Sherratt, Brass Founder	...	...	...	...	Water Carriage
James Fairclough & Sons', Flour Mills	...	...	...	...	do.
T. Sadler's Saw Mills	...	...	...	...	Privy
Heyes & Co., Appleton Village	..	.	...	...	Water Carriage
Steelite Syndicate	...	...	...	...	do.
Todd Bros....	...	...	...	...	do.
T. A. Bullough	...	...	...	...	do.
Ardleter Size & Chemical Co.	...	...	...	...	Dry Earth
A. Cooper	...	...	...	...	Water Carriage
Tilley & Kiddie	...	...	..	...	do.
E. Wood	...	...	...	...	do.
The Alumina Co.	...	...	...	...	do.
J. Ankers & Sons	...	...	...	...	Privy
T. S. Swale, Printer	..	...	...	...	Water Carriage for each Sex
W. Williams, do.	...	...	..	do.	do.
A. Edwards, do.	...	...	...	do.	do.
A. Clarkson, do.	...	...	...	...	Water Carriage

*Offensive Trades—Public Health Act, 1875, Sec. 112—*

*Messrs. Foster Dent & Co., now Ethelbert Foster, Ltd.—*

This works which consists of a Knacker's yard and Fat Boiling Process, is situated immediately outside the Borough, in the area of the Rural District Council of Warrington.

A written complaint was received from the teachers of the Warrington Road Schools, complaining of the stench from these works. The matter was taken up at once with Foster, Ltd., and Mr. Kerfoot, the Inspector (for the said Rural District Council). No further complaints have been received.

*Messrs. The Fleetwood Chemical Co.—*

No serious complaints have been received respecting these works.

*Messrs. Dean & Co.—*

No complaints have been received about these works.

*Bakehouses—*

Twenty-nine bakehouses for the year 1908 are on the register, there being no underground bakehouses in use. Of the 29 bakehouses, seven are bread bakers and confectioners, the remaining twenty-two bread bakers only.

These have been periodically inspected.

*List of Bakehouses—*

R. Webster, Salisbury Street  
 W. Murray, Alforde Street  
 A. Webster, Farnworth Street  
 A. W. Southwood, Halton View  
 G. Whitfield, William Street  
 W. M. Robinson, Albert Road  
 J. G. Grundy, Albert Road  
 W. Hodgkinson, Albert Road  
 Mrs. P. Caldwell, Widnes Road  
 J. Sloan, Caroline Street  
 W. Redmond, Canal Street  
 Miss Raw, Albert Road  
 Wm. Palin, Widnes Road  
 W. Bray, Victoria Road  
 Co-operative Society, Ditton Road  
 J. Gerard, Mersey Road  
 F. Lawrinson, Irwell Street  
 Boyle Bros., Irwell Street  
 Lewis & Calvert, Wright Street  
 R. Moore, Waterloo Road  
 John Wright, Highfield Road  
 W. Roach, Mersey Road  
 S. Proe, Albert Road  
 J. Highfield, Church Street  
 J. W. Leach, Mersey Road  
 Miss Pile, Albert Road

W. E. Parker, Victoria Road  
 Mrs. Barber, 12 Albert Road  
 Miss Kirkham, Farnworth Street

## LIST OF WORKSHOPS.

### MILLINERY.

R. F. Baker, Victoria Road  
 Mrs. Corke, Victoria Road  
 Mrs. J. Owens, 1 and 3 Church Street  
 Lewis and Calvert, Victoria Road  
 Runcorn and Widnes Co-operative Society  
 Miss Welfare, Albert Road  
 Miss Flewitt, Albert Road  
 Miss Holford, Widnes Road

### DRESSMAKING.

Mrs. Harper, 33 Witt Road  
 Miss King, Church Street  
 Mrs. Barlow, Mersey Road  
 Miss Ogden, 10 Mersey Road  
 Miss Pickthall, 24 Frederick Street  
 Mrs. M. Wall, 3 Midwood Street  
 Miss Carter, Deacon Road  
 Miss Cooper, Albert Road  
 Misses F. and C. Eaton, 59 Derby Road  
 Boardman, 7 Deacon Road  
 Herriman 43 Witt Road  
 Mrs. A. Mulroy, Upton  
 Maud Staveley, Frederick Street  
 Miss Eleanor Smith, Dragon Yard Farnworth  
 Mrs. Passey, Albert Road  
 Runcorn and Widnes Co-operative Society  
 Mrs. A. A. Neild, 96 Peelhouse Lane  
 Lewis & Calvert Ltd., Victoria Road  
 Miss Smith, 16 Witt Road  
 Miss Simpson, 144 Albert Road  
 Miss Whinyates, 3 Dickson Street  
 F. Kenyon, 2 South Street



## TAILORING.

J. P. Coop, Victoria Road  
 Woodwiss & Hall, Victoria Road  
 Harris Corran, Albert Road  
 J. Houghton & Sons, 1 Major Cross Street

## OUT-WORKERS.

Mrs. Jackman, 9 Lacey Street  
 Catherine Draper, 27 Moor Lane

## SADDLER.

Boydell & Co., Victoria Road  
 A. Hunt, Widnes Road

## SHOE MAKERS AND CLOGGERS.

Adam Case, Victoria Road  
 Henry Wilkinson, Albert Road  
 Henry Wilkinson, Hutchinson Street  
 J. Hedgcock, Ann Street West and 68 Waterloo Road  
 T. H. Wilkinson, 37 Ann Street West  
 Runcorn & Widnes Co-operative Society  
     Victoria Square  
 Milner & Co., 9 Moor Lane  
 Martin Pierce, Albert Road  
 S. G. Bowden 149 Albert Road

## SAW MILLS.

Thomas Sadler, Widnes Road

## BOAT BUILDING.

William Cooper, Terrace Road  
 William Gandy, Terrace Road

## TOOL MAKERS.

Arthur Moss, Sussex Street  
 F. Wilkinson, 14 Upton Lane  
 J. Cookson, 12 Upton Lane  
 —Heyes, Sussex Street

## COOPERAGES.

Alfred Fozzard, Ollier Street  
—Bailey (James & Co.), Ditton Road

## CABINET MAKERS.

E. Webster, Albert Road  
J. A. Barkla, Victoria Square

## LAUNDRIES.

Sarah Wilde, Upton Lane  
Ellen Stott, Upton Lane  
John Berry, Prescott Road, Upton  
James Houghton, Farm, Prescott Road, Upton  
Ann Houghton, 9 Upton Lane  
—Houghton, 8 Prescott Road  
A. Durkin, 126 Widnes Road

## CYCLE MANUFACTURES, ETC.

Ward & Co., Gladstone Street  
W. H. Wright, Frederick Street  
James H. Bebbington, Albert Road

## TIN SMITH.

J. A. Boyle, Croft Street

## CHEMICAL APPARATUS MANUFACTURERS.

J. W. Towers, Croft Street

## OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Fleetwood Chemical Co., West Bank Dock  
Percy Dean, West Bank Dock  
Ditton Oil Works, West Bank Dock

## ICE CREAM.

Gondolfa, Victoria Road

## WHEELWRIGHT.

Wm. Streets, Alforde Street

## BLACKSMITHS.

J. H. Lee, Ollier Street  
 P. Linaker, Victoria Road and Brook Street  
 William Walker, Alforde Street  
 A. Hornby, Ollier Street

## WEIGHING MACHINE MANUFACTURERS.

Greenhough's, Luton Street  
 Pooley & Son's, Ditton Road  
 Avery & Sons, Croft Street

## PRINTERS.

Joseph Swale, Victoria Road  
 Wm. Williams, Hutchinson Street  
 A. Edwards, Widnes Road  
 A. Clarkson, Widnes Road

## JOINERS.

John Beech, Carlton Street  
 Joseph Penney, Wellington Street  
 J. Midwood, Ditton Road

## BRASS FOUNDER.

Frederick Sherratt, Lugsdale Road

## PLUMBERS.

W. Moreland, Waterloo Road  
 — Mayers, Victoria Road  
 T. Fox, Widnes Road  
 D. Lea, Farnworth Street

## GENERAL.

L. & N. W. Railway Co., Goods Station  
 Hutchinson's Trustees, West Bank Dock  
 L. & N. W. Railway Co., Widnes Dock  
 Great Central Railway Co., Tan House Lane

## MARINE STORE.

J. Dykes, Waterloo Road  
 Bond & Houghton, Farrant Street

## *Notification of Infectious Diseases and Prevention Acts—*

During the year 150 cases of Infectious Disease were notified, of these 80 were Scarlet Fever, 10 Diphtheria, 44 Enteric Fever, 16 Erysipelas.

The premises of each of these cases have been inspected, with the result that the following nuisances were found :—

Defective Gullies ... ..	4
Defective Roofs ... ..	2
Defective Downspout ... ..	1
Defective Yard Pavement ... ..	3
Defective Slopstone Waste-Pipe ... ..	1
Waste Water Closet choked .. ..	2
Drains choked ... ..	2
Overcrowding ... ..	3
Deep, Wet and Foul Privy ... ..	1
Defective Privy Wall ... ..	1

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The bedding and clothing were in all cases removed and disinfected by the Steam disinfector.

As in previous years and by order, I had the privies, yards and passages in West Bank, Waterloo, Victoria, Simm's Cross and Halton View sprayed with a strong solution of chloros during the months of June, July, August, September and October at a cost of £41 18s. 9d.

## *Notices to the Librarian, Education Department and Boro' Accountant—*

Notices continue to be delivered to the above Departments, informing them where Infectious Diseases have been notified.

## ANALYSIS OF ENTERIC FEVER IN THE SEVERAL WARDS—1908.

I have pleasure in submitting the following tables as to Typhoid Fever during the year 1908, giving the name of the Street, the number of the house and the Wards in which the cases occurred.

WARD	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	Above 65	At all ages
<i>Farnworth</i> --							
Sayce Street, 12	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
	...	...	1	...	...	...	1

Farnworth Ward—1 Case.

*Halton—*

Walter Street, 2, 2	...	...	...	I	I	...	2
William Street, 5	...	...	...	I	...	...	I
Joseph Street, 25	...	...	...	I	...	...	I
Grove Street, 7,	...	...	...	...	I	...	I
Isolation Hospital	...	...	...	...	I	...	I
	...	...	...	3	3	...	6

Halton Ward—6 Cases.

*Simm's Cross—*

Moon Street, 41, 41	...	...	I	...	I	...	2
Chatham Street, 12	...	...	1	...	.	...	I
Deacon Road, 11	...	...	...	...	I	...	I
Kent Street, 98	...	...	...	I	...	..	I
Arthur Street, 12	...	...	...	I	...	...	I
Bower Street, 17	...	...	I	...	...	...	I
Salisbury Street, 32	...	...	...	I	...	...	I
Gossage Street, 56	...	...	I	...	...	...	I
Midwood Street, 45	...	...	...	I	...	...	I
	...	...	4	4	2	...	10
Simm's Cross Ward    10 Cases.							



*Victoria—*

Milton Road, 25	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Midwood Street, 102	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Ann Street, 31, 28	...	...	...	1	1	...	2
Palin Street, 5	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Eleanor Street, 18	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Grenfell St, 22 (5), 21, 31	...	...	1	3	3	...	7
<hr/>							
	...	...	2	4	7	...	13

Victoria Ward—13 Cases.

*Waterloo—*

Wellington Street, 30	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
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	...	...	1	...	...	...	1

Waterloo Ward—1 Case.

*West Bank—*

Davies Street, 34, 5	...	...	...	1	1	...	2
Cholmondley St., 82 (2)	...	...	...	2	...	...	2
Viaduct Street, 59 (2)	...	..	...	1	1	...	2
Mersey Road, 94, 130	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
Hurst Street, 97	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Irwell Street, 79, 75	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
Oakland Street, 99	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
James Street, 82	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
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	...	...	2	7	4	...	13

West Bank Ward—13 Cases.

Total Number of Cases—44.

Particulars of Articles disinfected during the year 1908, at the Infectious Diseases Hospital :—

Beds	...	...	113
Sheets	...	...	143
Blankets	...	...	152
Quilts	...	...	144
Pillows	..	...	189
Pillowslips	...	...	192
Miscellaneous	...	...	567
			<hr/>
			1500
Miscellaneous from Hospital			7275
			<hr/>
Grand Total	...		8775

### *Fried Fish and Chipped Potato Shops—*

These have been inspected from time to time with a view of seeing if the fish cooked was wholesome, the disposal of refuse and the cleanliness of the premises.

### *Sanitary Conveniences—*

There are now 1299 Waste or Slop Water Closets and 1226 Fresh Water Closets, being an increase of 134 Waste Water Closets and 181 Fresh Water Closets.

### *Smoke Tests—*

Smoke Tests were applied to the drains and ventilators of 17 houses in the Borough, and 14 were found to be blocked with birds nests, etc.

### *Schools—*

The following Schools were fumigated with sulphur on

June 10—National Schools, Waterloo Road	.....	29 candles,
„ 10—St. Patrick's Schools, West Bank.....	39	„
„ 10—West Bank Schools, West Bank ....	52	„
„ 11—Simm's Cross Schools .....	69	„
„ 11—Warrington Road Schools .....	40	„
„ 11—St. Marie's Schools ..	35	„
„ 12—St. Bede's School .....	35	„
„ 12—Farnworth National Schools .....	23	„
		<hr/>
		322 „

### *Unsound Food—*

On March 2nd my attention was called to the carcase of a beast owned and slaughtered by a farmer outside the Borough, who intended to sell it in Widnes.

On inspection by the Medical Officer of Health and myself it was found to be unfit for human consumption and was condemned.

On April 16th, a butcher in Widnes called my attention to a pig which he had killed and of which he was suspicious. On examination along with the Medical Officer of Health, it was condemned.

12-lbs. cherries, 6-lbs. plums, 3-lbs. mutton, 8-lbs. damsons, 1 rabbit, 1 hare.

### *Sanitary Improvements effected during the year—*

The following privies at houses Nos. 24, 26, 18, 81, 83, 85 and 87 Victoria Road, 13 Albert Road, Charlesville, Beaconsfield Road, 74a Cholmondeley Street, 126 Widnes Road, 2 Oakland Street, 52 Birchfield Road, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23 Moon Street, 63, 65, 67 Lugsdale Road, 13, 15, 17 Waterloo Road, 4 and 6 Midwood Street, 17 and 19 Derby Road, converted into fresh water closets.

St. Bede's Schools, Infants' Department, Automatic trough closets.

Workshops, Messrs. Welsby & Son, Gladstone Street, fresh water closet.

Private Schools, Miss Sutcliffe's Derby Road, fresh water closet.

Common Lodging House, 2 Marsh Street and 36 Wellington Street, fresh water closets.

Factory, Fleetwood Chemical Co., fresh water closet.

### *Demolition of Property—*

Owing to the dangerous condition of houses numbered 1, 3, 5, 19, 21, 23 Railway Street, 10 and 12 Ann Street, had been allowed to get into, notices were served for their demolition which were complied with.

The owners of the following property have several times been written to regarding the destruction of their property :—

Mr. Thomason, 23 to 43 inclusive, Victoria Street,  
Mr. C. Crossley, 29 to 41 inclusive, Elizabeth Street,  
Mr. Lightburn, 3 to 11 inclusive, Brynn Street,

but only action of a temporary character done.

### *Foul Ditches—*

Negotiations are in hand between myself and The Sutton Manor Collieries, Revd. Canon Wright-Williams *re* cleaning out of a foul ditch.

Also between the owners of property in Lunts Heath Road, and the foul ditch rear of their houses No. 8 to 48 inclusive, Lunt's Heath Road.

### *Cleansing of Houses—*

Three hundred and fifty bags of Sanitary Dry Lime have been given out for cleansing purposes.

### *Canal Boats Acts—*

I annex copy of my report to the Local Government Board, as to the execution of the Canal Boats Acts 1877 and 1884, for the year 1908.

In conclusion I desire to thank the Superintendent of Police and his Officers for the assistance rendered from time to time.

I beg to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant.

W. LOWE,

Inspector of Nuisances.

ANNUAL REPORT AS TO THE EXECUTION OF THE  
CANAL BOATS ACTS, 1877 AND 1884, FOR  
THE YEAR 1908.

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BOROUGH OF WIDNES.

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*Inspection of Boats—*

The Inspection of the canal boats is undertaken by the Inspector of Nuisances (Mr. Walter Lowe, Town Hall, Widnes,) no salary being paid.

*Number of Boats Inspected—*

The number of Boats inspected during 1908 was 56, the condition of the boats and their occupants as regards the matters dealt with in the Acts is generally satisfactory.

*As to Infringements of Acts and Regulations -*

The following are the particulars of Infringements of Acts and Regulations during the Year:—

(a)	Registration	...	...	One
(b)	Notification of Change of Master			None
(c)	Certificates	...	...	Three
(d)	Marking	...	...	Three
(e)	Overcrowding	...	...	None
(f)	Separation of Sexes	...	...	None
(g)	Cleanliness	...	...	None
(h)	Ventilation	...	...	Two
(i)	Painting	...	...	Seven
(j)	Provisions of Water Cask		...	One
(k)	Removal of Bilge Water		...	None
(l)	Notification of Infectious Disease			None
(m)	Admittance of Inspector		...	None



*Legal Proceedings—*

No legal proceedings taken.

*Cases of Infectious Disease—*

No case of Infectious Disease was met with, nor was any boat detained for cleansing and disinfection.

*No. of Boats on Register—*

The number of boats on the Register is 146.

*No. of Boats Registered 1908—*

There were no boats registered during the year.

(Signed) WALTER LOWE,

Inspector of Nuisances.

Nuisance Inspector's Office,  
Town Hall, Widnes,  
December 31st, 1908.